

## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday, October 13, 2003**

Chairman Dwyer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** Chairman James Dwyer, County Board Supervisors Patricia Haukohl, Kenneth Herro, Walter Kolb, Richard Manke, Duane Paulson and Duane Stamsta.

**Also Present:** Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Legislative Policy Advisor Mark Mader, UW-Extension Director Marcia Jante, Supervisor Dan Pavelko, County Executive Dan Finley, Executive Chief of Staff Allison Bussler, Emergency Management Coordinator Jim Malueg, Office Services Coordinator Windy Jicha, Waukesha Freeman Reporter Dennis Shook, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Reporter Scott Williams, Supervisor Rodell Singert, Supervisor Hank Carlson, Budget Manager Keith Swartz, Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels, Supervisor Sandi Wolff, Supervisor Bill Mitchell, Senior Financial Analyst Mike Baniel, Supervisor Kathleen Cummings, Citizen Jeff Clark, City of Waukesha Fire Chief Al LaConte, City of Brookfield Fire Chief John Dahms, City of Oconomowoc Fire Chief Glenn Leidel, Mukwonago Fire Chief Jeff Rolfe, City of Delafield Fire Chief Al Swayze and member of the County Local Emergency Planning Committee Jeff Clark.

### **Public Comment**

County Executive Dan Finley introduced Allison Bussler, his new Chief of Staff, to the committee.

### **Approve Minutes of September 29, 2003**

**MOTION:** Stamsta moved, Manke second, to approve the minutes of September 29, 2003. **Motion carried:** 7-0.

### **Meeting Approvals**

**MOTION:** Manke moved, Haukohl second to approve attendance for the Executive Committee at the Specialized Transportation Forum with Dan Finley and Frank Busalacchi on November 13, 2003. **Motion carried:** 7-0.

### **Chair Report**

Dwyer distributed the Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Monthly Activity Report October 2003. He said to contact Michelle Cyrulik if the committee members have any questions or issues.

### **Discuss and Consider the 2004 Operating Budget of UW-Extension**

Jante was present to discuss the 2004 Operating Budget of the UW-Extension. She covered the following areas outlined in the 2004 budget book: mission, financial summary, position summary, objectives and strategic achievements. Total expenditures for 2004 are \$315,989 and total revenues are \$3,324 for a tax levy decrease of \$100,000 or 24.2%. Jante also explained the following programs: Youth and Family, Environmental and Urban Initiative for Community Development. UW-Extension has 3.50 FTE regular positions, 0.15 FTE extra help and 0.00 FTE overtime. This is a 1.38 FTE decrease from 2003.

Jante said there is a reduction in revenues in the budget because of a shift in focus. The UW-Extension is seeking programs that will provide income. In the last two years, there has been a 37% decrease in tax levy. If the UW-Extension office does not continue to secure grant dollars, several positions will cease to exist. Grant dollars are not reflected in the budget pages of the financial summary found on page 202 of the budget book.

Haukohl asked, when county money is cut, does that affect the UW-Extension's ability to get federal funding? Jante said as county funding continues to decrease; the office will not be able to get as much federal funding. The UW-Extension brings in \$6 for each \$1 the county puts into the budget. She said the county input provides leverage to get additional grant funding.

Daniels distributed the 2004 proposed amendments to the UW-Extension budgets. Esler distributed a new page from the UW-Extension budget, page 202 outlining the mission, financial summary and position summary.

**MOTION:** Paulson moved, Haukohl second, for Waukesha County, UW Extension Office, to accept the Community Service Block Grant from the Community Action Coalition for South Center Wisconsin, Inc. (CAC) and amend the UW Extension 2004 budget as follows: Increase intergovernmental grant revenues \$10,000 in the Environmental Program for a recent Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) grant award notification. Increase personnel cost appropriation by \$3,000, operating expense appropriation by \$6,500 and interdepartmental charges by \$500. The grant is for a community gardening collaboration project for the Huber Garden Project. This project provides a meaningful work experience for Huber inmates and increases their knowledge about gardening and food safety. The inmates will be taught nutrition life skills and the food to be produced will be donated to food pantries in Waukesha County. **Motion carried:** 6-1 (Kolb voted no).

**MOTION:** Haukohl moved, Stamsta second, to amend the UW Extension 2004 budget as follows: Increase intergovernmental grant revenues \$127,000 and increase personnel cost appropriation by \$4,096, operating expense appropriation by \$116,554 and interdepartmental charges appropriation by \$6,350 for expenditures associated with grants for the Urban Initiative program (in accordance with the Community Development Block Grant proposed ordinance). **Motion carried:** 5-2 (Herro and Kolb voted no).

**MOTION:** Haukohl moved, Stamsta second, for the Waukesha County UW Extension Office to accept the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grant Funds (SAMSHA) and amend the UW Extension 2004 budget as follows: Increase intergovernmental grant revenues \$189,299 in the Urban Initiative Program for a recent grant award notification. Increase personnel cost appropriation by \$3,000, operating expense appropriation by \$6,500 and interdepartmental charges by \$1,185. The grant will help the county's UW-Extension office provide and conduct additional violence prevention education in the Haertel Field and Phoenix Heights neighborhoods. The grant funds will be used to develop, implement and measure results of youth, family and neighborhood educational and violence prevention programs. **Motion carried:** 5-2 (Herro and Kolb voted no).

Dwyer said Jante will be invited back to a future Executive Committee meeting to review UW Extension departmental objectives and achievements.

**MOTION:** Stamsta moved, Haukohl second, to tentatively approve the 2004 Operating Budget of UW-Extension. **Motion carried:** 7-0.

### **Discuss and Consider Resolution 158-R-008: Freeze Waukesha County 2004 Tax Levy at 2003 Adopted Budget Amount**

Pavelko and Singert were present to discuss this resolution. Pavelko said Finley presented his budget in September and his reductions are a start. Young families and the elderly can no longer afford the ever-increasing taxes. This is a hot item for voters. He has received many phone calls from people in favor of a tax freeze. He said we should give taxpayers a break and freeze the budget.

Dwyer asked how he would freeze the budget? What is his process? Pavelko said Supervisor Jeff Morris was supposed to give something to Esler showing decreases. Dwyer said this resolution is not coming at a good time; it would be better served for the 2005 budget. Staff has been working on their budgets for more than four months. Pavelko said this resolution was submitted in August.

Kolb said he voted against the budget in the past. He's going to be the first one of many to say the County Executive put together a good budget under the initiatives put up by the Republicans in Madison. Kolb said this resolution to the board now, at this time of the year, is irresponsible.

**MOTION:** Kolb moved, Paulson second, to table Resolution 158-R-008: Freeze Waukesha County 2004 Tax Levy at 2003 Adopted Budget Amount. **Motion carried:** 6-1 (Haukohl voted no).

**MOTION:** Herro moved, Stamsta second, to remove Resolution 158-R-008 from the table. **Motion carried:** 7-0.

Herro said he agrees with the County Executive's budget. The Department of Health and Human Services Committee has many programs that are state mandated. They don't have any choice but to run these programs. His committee has carefully scrutinized the Department of Health and Human Services budget and is convinced that the budgets are secure.

Paulson said the committees with purview have already approved budgets. The committees have thorough knowledge of departmental budgets and the members have passed the budgets with very few amendments. He would like Pavelko and Singert to show exactly where they would cut the budgets.

Stamsta asked Pavelko and Singert what services they would like to cut? What county benefits would they like to lose? No one came to Judiciary Committee meetings to discuss increases and to suggest ways to reduce the budget. He is very disappointed.

Kolb said if you have budget cuts, you needed to come to the committee meetings and explain what cuts they wanted made. He said to turn around now and freeze the budget without saying exactly where is not fair to the County Executive or staff members. If they had gone through the budgets and asked for specific cuts, he would have gone with the tax freeze. You have to look at both sides to see if this is a responsible decision.

Manke said Singert sits on the Public Works committee and Singert came in with proposed cuts that will affect the county's Aaa bond rating. If you look at our capital plan it is balanced. When you look at one-time savings, you may have to pay it at a later time. Waukesha is a growing county and you need to do maintenance. If you pass on maintenance issues, eventually you will have to make it up somewhere.

Haukohl said as finance chair, she invited everyone with tax freeze proposals to come to the Finance Committee meetings and make suggestions on how to cut budgets. If you are going to cut budgets, you needed to come to the committees and to make suggestions for exact item reductions. Without going through this process, amendment review day in Finance Committee will become really long.

Dwyer said the capital budget is an easy target to cut because there is a lot of money in the budget. We spend a higher part of the budget on roads than any other county in Wisconsin which has allowed roads and subdivisions to flourish. If you do not invest in our county this way, growth will go to other communities.

Singert said he apologizes because they aren't prepared to give specifics point-by-point. Some of their thoughts have already been addressed. Today's effort is not a 30-second sound bite. He went to a rally at Serb Hall in Milwaukee on the tax freeze and he has done his homework. This is an effort to minimize the painful cuts that are going to come in the future. One of the issues we need to address is increased health insurance costs. The WCTC and UW-Waukesha problems including consolidation of the two schools will have to be addressed. This process has been in the mill for a long time. Singert said he attended Finley's Town Hall meeting in Vernon on July 30 along with three other Supervisors. This was their opening to discuss thoughts and ideas and the first time there was a break in the production of the budget. He said Finley told him to present their ideas for cuts on July 30.

Herro said, to date, 85% of the budget has already been reviewed by standing committees.

Singert said the pain is going to come next year. Waukesha County isn't immune to belt tightening. We have discussed cuts and feel there are a lot in the capital budget.

Dwyer asked Singert if he had any specific budget cuts today?

Pavelko said Supervisor Morris submitted a plan for cuts. These will be at the Supervisors places tomorrow night. Pavelko said this would cut \$1.7 million from capital expenditures. Dwyer said the plan puts off maintenance to the future.

Singert said he would like to cut capital project item 27 (Rehabilitate CTH "O" from CTH "I" to STH 59). He personally reviewed the project and drove it and decided it should be eliminated.

Herro doesn't think the resolution is good policy.

Haukohl said she was hoping that they were going to give us specifics on how to freeze the taxes.

**MOTION:** Haukohl moved, Stamsta second, to table Resolution 158-R-008: Freeze Waukesha County 2004 Tax Levy at 2003 Adopted Budget Amount. **Motion carried:** 7-0.

#### **Discuss Countywide Haz-Mat Response Team with Jim Malueg**

LaConte presented a PowerPoint presentation on the concept of a countywide HazMat team and distributed hard copies of the presentation. The presentation included the following items: Wisconsin hazardous materials response history, Waukesha County level B hazardous material service, consolidation history, statewide level B study, executive summary, proposed scope of work, standard operation guideline county level B hazardous material response and 2004 costing overview. LaConte believes that all communities in Waukesha County are interested in this proposal except the City of New Berlin. LaConte said he believes the City of New Berlin is in favor of the consolidated team but does not want to join. He said he believes the City of New Berlin fire chief is focused on strengthening the fire and EMS services to the community and minimizing hazardous conditions issues. There should be a savings across the board from consolidation but there are no guaranteed savings for communities joining the team.

Maleug said there would be savings through cost avoidance. In the future, fire departments would not have to spend as much money locally for their HazMat team.

Manke said he talked to Hartland and they believe that a countywide team is a good idea.

Swayze said none of the departments in the southwestern portion of the county have HazMat resources available. Many of these communities have volunteer fire departments that have not been built or invested in a HazMat team. The fire chiefs embrace this consolidation. Currently, the City of Waukesha does not contract to other communities to provide HazMat services. The communities involved in mutual aid will only respond to those communities with mutual aid. Swayze thinks LAMA does good work with the resources they have. He worries about the expertise of the members of LAMA because many departments consist primarily of volunteer or on-call members.

Leidel said the more calls a HazMat team goes on, the more practice they have with these types of issues and the better they become. When his team has one call per year, their skills get rusty. It makes more sense to have one team dedicated to this issue.

Malueg said he is confident that we can obtain the startup equipment through the Federal Emergency Management Grant.

Clark said in a HazMat situation, they first try to recover the costs of the situation from the spiller. The State of Wisconsin has a fund where you can try to recover some costs. Clark said if the spiller doesn't pay, and the state doesn't reimburse, the municipality would be billed for expenses. In the end, Waukesha County is responsible for all unpaid costs. Malueg said this isn't a new model; it is being used in 30 counties through the state.

Stamsta asked what kind of overage fund do we have to set up? Malueg said this is difficult to figure. All you need is one big emergency and that could be quite costly.

LaConte said the \$90,000 budgeted for personnel costs will be used to get the program up and running. The City of Waukesha has been fortunate to recover all of their costs to date. It's not a timely process to recover the funds but eventually you usually get paid.

Swartz said this item is currently in the Non-Departmental budget and will be moved to the Emergency Management budget next year.

Esler asked will there be an ordinance coming to the board designating the City of Waukesha Fire Department as the emergency response team in Waukesha County. Malueg said he would look into it. Esler asked will the Local Emergency Planning Committee's strategic plan identify the City of Waukesha Fire Department as the county response team? Malueg said the plan will identify the City of Waukesha Fire Department as the county response team. Esler said there is no money in the plan for personnel costs and the costs do not appear to be covered by grant funding. Will the grant cover these costs? Will the county perpetually pay \$95,000 per year for personnel costs?

### **Discuss and Consider the 2004 Operating Budget for the Waukesha County Federated Library Federation**

**MOTION:** Paulson moved, Stamsta second, to tentatively approve the 2004 Operating Budget for the Waukesha County Federated Library Federation.

**MOTION:** Haukohl moved, Paulson second to amend the Federated Library budget as follows: Increase the County Federated Library Tax levy by \$158,935 to \$2,769,187 from the County Executive proposed Tax Levy of \$2,610,252. Increase operating expense appropriations \$158,935 to fund payments to Waukesha Federated Library System member libraries. This amendment results in \$158,935 of additional direct County Federated Library Tax Levy. **Motion carried:** 6-1 (Kolb voted no).

The intent of this amendment is to remove the 2.6% tax levy increase cap presented in the County Executive's 2004 budget and replace it with the tax levy as calculated under the Federated Library System Tax Levy Formula outlined in County Code Section 11-4. The County Code Section 11-4 formula calculates the county library tax levy based on current year estimated local library expenditures, excluding capital expenditures, and the percentage of non-library community borrowing as a percentage of total county borrowing. The Special Federated Library Tax is levied on the value property in non-library communities only.

**ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION: Motion carried:** 6-1 (Kolb voted no).

## **Discuss and Consider the Non-Departmental 2004 Operating Budget**

**MOTION:** Manke moved, Paulson second, to amend the Non-Departmental General Fund budget as follows: Increase Operating Expenses \$16,000 to fund 2004 railroad maintenance costs as requested by the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission (WRRTC). This represents the first year of a three year maintenance plan as proposed by the WRRTC, with expected additional county tax levy funding of \$13,000 in the 2005 budget and \$26,300 in the 2006 budget.

Herro said he would like to see this issue on a future agenda for further discussion.

Supervisor Paulson left the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Esler said this issue was discussed in the 1980s. The WRRTC is doing a policy change in how they fund track rehabilitation. They have identified in a ten-year plan including the total cost to rehabilitate the track. The state pays 80%, Southern Railroad pays 10% and each of 18 counties who are in the commission pay part of the remaining 10% of the capital costs. The 80% of the state share would total approximately \$4 million per year but in the end, they came through with 50% of the funding. The Public Works Committee discussed first using available funds that are currently in the form of a credit in the WRRTC. The credit is fund balance from a previous project. This is a winnowing away of the credit balance with the full legislative intent of an annual fee of \$26,000. Esler said this particular railroad loads agricultural products and links them to a longer rail line. It is a spur they want to upgrade the tracks.

Dwyer said he would like the WRRTC to first use the fund balance held by the WRRTC. What if only half of the 18 counties participate? Manke said he doesn't think the WRRTC would go through with the program.

Herro said this decision is not based on policy.

**ON THE MOTION: Motion defeated:** 3-3 (Dwyer, Herro, Kolb voted no).

**MOTION:** Stamsta moved, Haukohl second, to tentatively approve the Non-Departmental 2004 Operating Budget. **Motion carried:** 7-0.

### **Correspondence**

Dwyer said the list of correspondence would be put in mailboxes. Please alert Jicha if you would like copies of any of the listed items.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Stamsta moved, Manke second, to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane E. Paulson  
Secretary